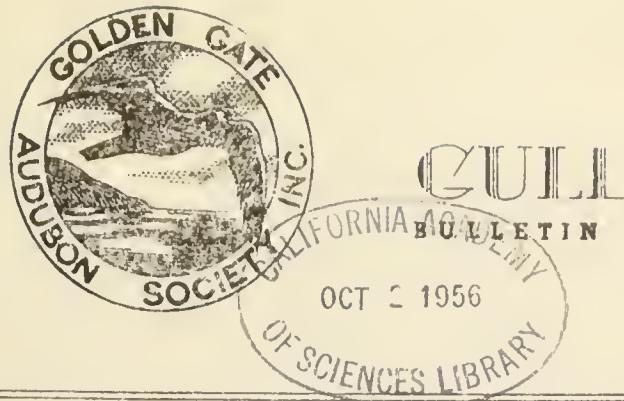


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Number 10

AUGUST TRIP TO SANCTUARY NEAR NEWARK

To the unobserving the glaring salt ponds on the southern shores of San Francisco Bay hold little interest; but — to those who obey the words of Jesus as found in Matthew 6:26, "Behold the fowls of the air" — we bird students beheld a delightful assembly of shorebirds and others. Forty-two people assembled in front of the Newark Post Office in 16 cars on August 19. By 9:30 we were wending our way over the narrow levees of the Leslie Salt Company to the Society's new sanctuary (see arrows on map on page 44). Suddenly we came around a corner and the next pond was covered with birds, a flock of about 1200 Wilson's Phalaropes and two small flocks of Knots being the items of chief attraction. By stalking low behind a levee we were able to approach them quite closely. About 1½ miles farther along the dike roads we reached the border of the sanctuary, where Mr. Cogswell showed maps and described the extent of the new sanctuary. Despite some wading in the now very tall Saltmarsh Grass (*Spartina foliosa*) by three members, no rails were seen; but the following 36 species were found in the salt pond and sanctuary areas: White Pelican 2, Great Blue Heron 3, American Egret 4 (and 15 after group had left), Snowy Egret 2, Black-crowned Night Heron 5, Pintail 90, Turkey Vulture 3, Marsh Hawk 1, Snowy Plover 7, Killdeer 6, Black-bellied Plover 20, Willet 500, Greater Yellow-legs 3, Red Knot 14 (and nearly 50 seen later at the same place by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wurster), Least Sandpiper 100, Dowitcher 35, Western Sandpiper 1000, Marbled Godwit 16, Am. Avocet 1500, Black-necked Stilt 5, Wilson's Phalarope 1300, Northern Phalarope 70, Ring-billed Gull 60, Forster's Tern 20, Royal Tern 2 [rare in Bay Area; all observations should be carefully checked to distinguish from the much commoner Caspian Tern — Ed.], Caspian Tern 6, Mourning Dove 1, Horned Lark 1 (juvenile), Barn Swallow 45, Cliff Swallow 8, Marsh Wren 1 or 2, W. Meadowlark 2, Brewer's Blackbird 100, Am. Goldfinch 15, Savannah Sparrow 15, Song Sparrow 30. After leaving this area in mid-afternoon, the Cogswells and Wursters saw about 600 White Pelicans and 8 Calif. Gulls near the east approach to Dumbarton Bridge, and a flock of 25 Long-billed Curlews on Ravenswood Slough, S.W. of the bridge.

— MERLE ELLIS REIF, *Leader and Historian.*

SEPTEMBER TRIP TO GRASS VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

On Saturday, September 15, nineteen members and friends enjoyed a beautiful warm day in the Grass Valley Park area, E. of Oakland. San Leandro Reservoir, just east of the park, was also covered. The highlights of the day were 3 California Thrashers and, as migrants, the presence of Western Tanagers and a (Calaveras) Nashville Warbler, the latter observed closely as it foraged in the understory. The following 49 species were seen or heard in the area: Great Blue Heron 1, Turkey Vulture 21, Cooper's Hawk 2, Red-tailed Hawk 2, Marsh Hawk 1, Sparrow Hawk 1, California Quail 12, Band-tailed Pigeon 4, Mourning Dove 1, Anna's Hummingbird 2, Belted Kingfisher 1, Red-shafted Flicker 6, Downy Woodpecker 2, Nuttall's Woodpecker 2, Western Flycatcher 2, Violet-green Swallow 4, Steller's Jay 8, Scrub Jay 28, Chestnut-backed Chickadee 14, Plain Titmouse 5, Common Bush-tit 50, White-breasted Nuthatch 2, Red-breasted Nuthatch 1, Wren-tit 7, Bewick's Wren 2, California Thrasher 3, Robin (many), Western Bluebird 4, Loggerhead Shrike 2, Hutton's Vireo 1, Warbling Vireo 8, Nashville Warbler 1, Audubon's Warbler 6, Pileolated Warbler 1, Red-winged Blackbird 4, Brewer's Blackbird, Western Tanager 5, Black-headed Grosbeak 1, Purple Finch 6, House Finch, Pine Siskin (many), Am. Goldfinch (many), (Green-backed) Lesser Goldfinch (many), Spotted Towhee 5, Brown Towhee 3, Oregon Junco (many), Chipping Sparrow 1, White-crowned Sparrow, Song Sparrow 4.

— CHARLES HINES, *Leader and Historian.*

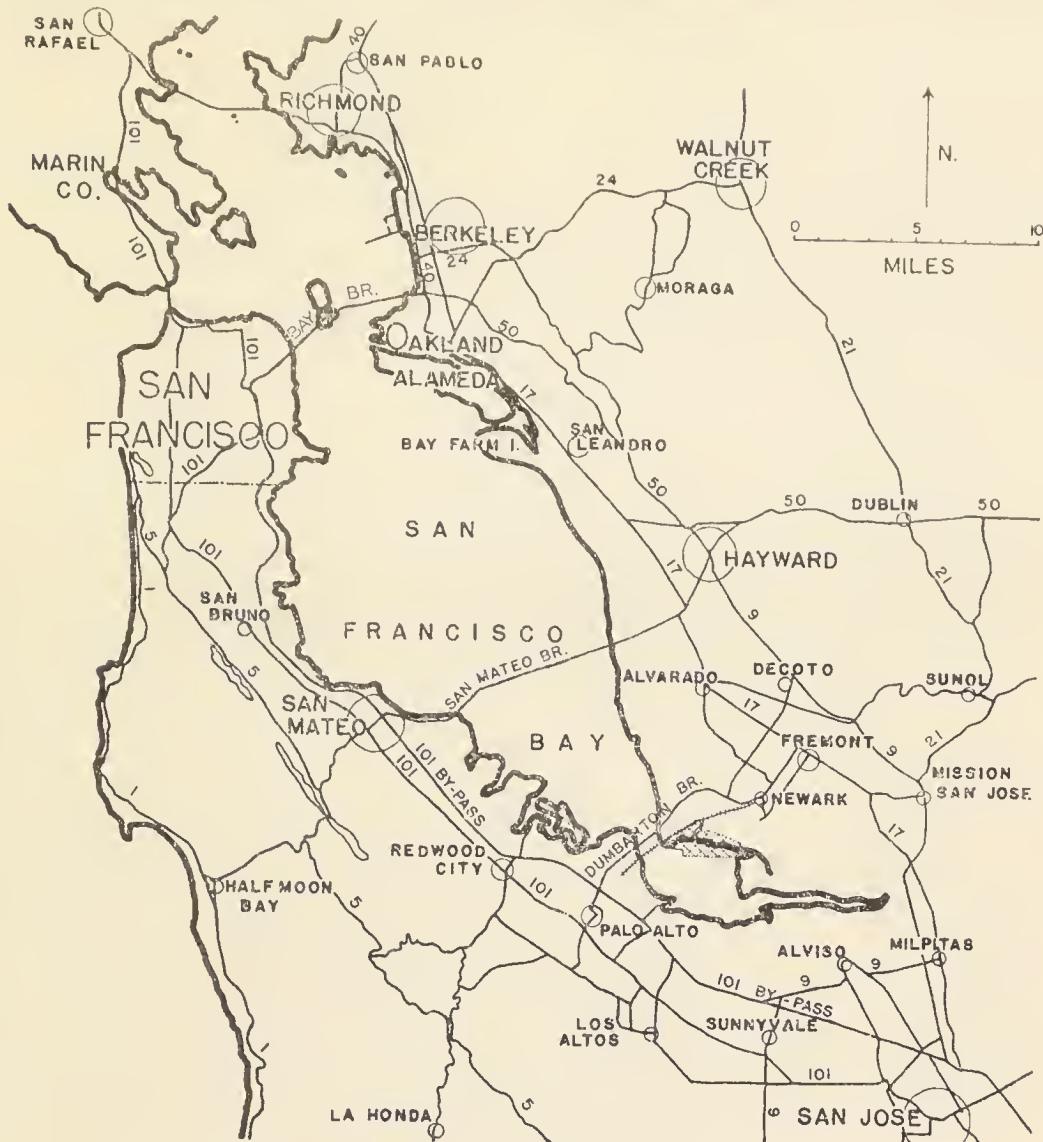
MAPS OF THE NEW SAN FRANCISCO BAY SANCTUARIES

By HOWARD L. COGSWELL

On the following two pages some maps appear which represent the first stage of response to numerous requests about the exact location, extent, and routes of access to the new salt-marsh and mud-flat sanctuaries leased by the several Bay Area Audubon Societies, the National Audubon Society, and the Sierra Club on the shores of the southern part of San Francisco Bay. The general location of the leased properties is indicated by the smaller scale map, on which various Bay Area cities are indicated together with the main routes leading to the vicinity of the sanctuaries from all directions. State and federal highway routes are indicated by the small numbers along them. The sanctuary area lying to the westward of Dumbarton Bridge is truly an island (Greco Island) and can be reached only by boat. The most convenient place to arrange for transportation there would be at the Redwood City Yacht Harbor, on the blind road shown extending northeastward from Route 101-Bypass near Redwood City. A detailed map of this part of the new sanctuaries will be published later.

The large scale map, of the Dumbarton Bridge to Newark area, shows the public roads in the vicinity and also the single-file dirt roads (narrow lines) on the Leslie Salt Company properties, to enter which permission must first be obtained from that company. Audubon Societies or other interested groups wishing to have field trips to the area should contact Mr. Buchen at the Leslie office in Newark. It is hoped that some method whereby individual members of the participating organizations, with their guests, can visit the areas for purposes of studying the habitat and its wildlife. At present the only route other than through the locked gates of Leslie Salt properties is by boat. If permission to drive the Leslie Salt roads is obtained, all who do so must sign a liability waiver, and plans must be made for groups of cars to turn around in the limited spaces available, etc. With proper care, about 10 to 15 cars can be parked (in one row) at the sanctuary border reached via the entrance S. of Newark, and about 3 to 5 at the one S. of the east end of Dumbarton Bridge. From the end of the road at this latter place a narrow board catwalk leads over the sloughs and around the end of the aqueducts to the end of the railroad bridge. From the railroad fill the entire length of the marsh area leased from Leslie Salt Company can be viewed or entered (afoot, of course, and with due care for the many small channels that lie hidden in the marsh vegetation).

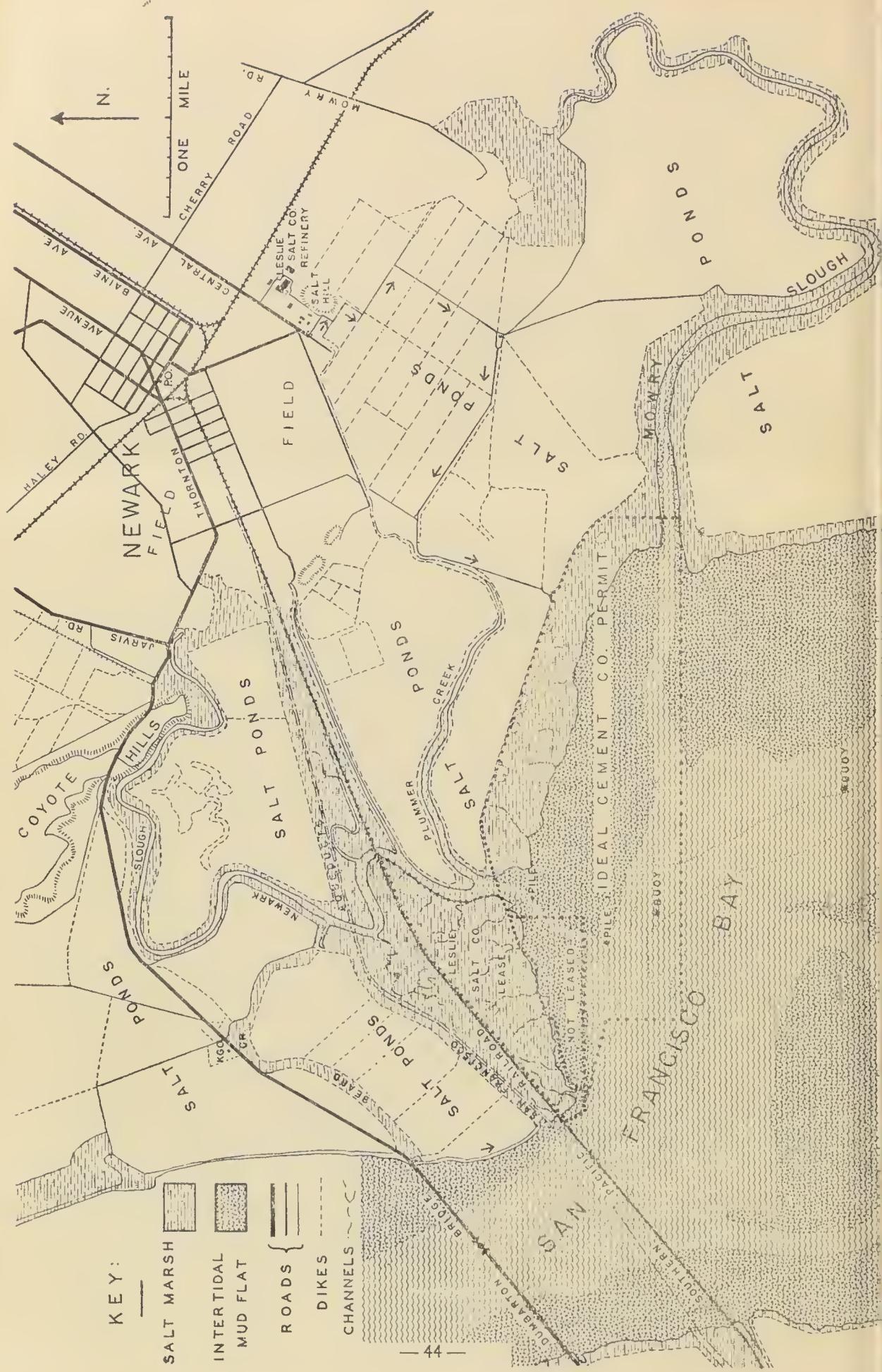
Careful planimeter measurements of the sanctuary areas on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, after the boundaries of the lease and permit areas were drawn on them from property maps supplied us by the lessors, indicate that the following acreages of the 3 major habitat types are included (see page 45):



Outline Map (above) of SAN FRANCISCO BAY AND VICINITY showing location of the Salt Marsh—Tidal Flat Sanctuary areas leased by the three Bay Area Audubon Societies, the National Audubon Society, and the Sierra Club. (cross-hatched areas E. and W. of Dumbarton Bridge).

Map on reverse side of page —— of the DUMBARTON BRIDGE—NEWARK AREA, showing extent of remaining Salt Marsh and Intertidal Mud Flat habitats in and near the properties leased as Wildlife Sanctuaries (bounded by heavy dotted line).

Automobiles can be driven close to the Sanctuary lands only along the roads on dikes indicated by arrows, for all of which permission (and key) must be obtained from Leslie Salt Company.



KEY:

SALT MARSH

INTER TIDAL MUD FLAT

ROADS

DIKES

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	Salt Marsh	Intertidal Mud Flats	Bay	Total
Leslie Salt Co. lease	193	27	220
Ideal Cement Co. (east portion; shown above).....	237	613	375	1225
Ideal Cement Co. (west portion — Greco Id.).....	410	410
Totals, by habitat:	840	640	375	1855

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Golden Gate Audubon Society: from Alameda, Miss Nellie F. Mutch; from Berkeley, Miss Beatrice M. Robinson, Miss Dorothy Harvey, Mr. J. H. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn W. Oatman, and Miss Ann F. Schafer; from Belvedere, Mrs. Wilda M. Boggs; from El Cerrito, Mr. Roger Hanelt; from Mill Valley, Miss Mary Ball; from Oakland, Mrs. Patricia D. Peterson, Mrs. Sterrett D. Woods, Mrs. Mildred L. Harrison, Mr. Frank Zograpos, Mrs. Camille Da Valle, and Mr. Edward P. Davison; from Irvington, Miss Linda Gadberry; from San Leandro, Miss Dorothy Gansberry; from San Francisco, Miss Cecilia McFadden, Miss Helen Ruthven, Miss Beulah Carswell, Miss Jean L. Burman, and Miss Kay Diane Harper. The membership now totals 886.

— JEAN L. DUNHAM, M.D., *Membership Chairman.*

OBSERVATIONS

Ash-throated Flycatcher, Aug. 21, in garden in S.E. Berkeley (A. S. Campbell); Cooper's Hawk, 1 pouncing on sparrows in San Francisco residential area, Aug. 14, female Western Tanager there, Sep. 10, and pair of MacGillivray's Warblers, Sep. 13 (Bradley Sibley); female Am. Golden-eye, Berkeley Aquatic Park, Sep. 15, a rather early date (Charles Hines, Francis Wolcott); Black-throated Gray Warbler, female at Redwood Regional Park, Sep. 16 (H. L. Cogswell, Ben Berkowitz). Enroute to the S.E. Farallon Island on Sep. 18 aboard the Coast Guard cutter "Willow" — no albatrosses (though 4 were seen on comparable trip on Aug. 7), Sooty Shearwater, 57 Pink-footed Shearwater 8, Parasitic Jaeger 1, Pomarine (?) Jaeger, 1 immature, California Gull (many, unexpectedly far commoner than Westerns); and on the island the same day, 3 large young Ashy Petrels and one Cassin's Auklet still in down were found in a brief 40 minutes ashore (HLC, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Ross).

INVITATION TO HAWAII BIRD TOUR

The Hawaii Audubon Society has extended an invitation for mainland birders to come to Hawaii this December 22 for an 8-day visit to many parts of the island of Oahu, with their members as guides on local trips there, to see the native forest birds [special family, Hawaiian Honeycreepers — Ed.] and the colorful imported ones. The tour cost of \$350 includes round trip air fare, lovely lanai room at the new Waikiki Surf Hotel, and all the local expeditions. Anyone interested in participating should write to Melva Trevor, director of Hawaii Bird Tour, c/o Ali'i Tours, P. O. Box 8085, Waikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

The meeting of officers and committee chairmen of northern California Audubon societies scheduled for October 13 at Mills College has been cancelled.

An all-California convention of Audubon members and friends will be held at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, April 13-17, 1957. Reserve these dates now on your calendar. Don't forget our first screen tour of the series in Berkeley, October 10.

OCTOBER MEETING

The 469th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, in the Assembly Room (3rd floor) of the Main Library in San Francisco (Larkin and McAllister Streets, no. 5 bus). Mr. John B. Davidson, who has just returned from a two-year trip which included over 55,000 miles of travel in Australia for the Los Angeles Museum, will speak on "A Naturalist Down Under," illustrating his talk with slides in color showing birds and animals in their natural habitat in all parts of the continent.

— LAUREL REYNOLDS, *Program Chairman.*

Before the meeting — a no-host dinner at 5:45 p.m. at the Whitcomb Hotel, Market Street near 9th.

— BONNIE SMITH, *Social Chairman.*

FIELD TRIPS FOR OCTOBER

The boat chartered for the trip to the S.E. FARALLON ISLAND on Sunday, October 14 has been filled; but if enough others (12) wish to go and will contact the undersigned as soon as possible, it may be possible to arrange for a second boat.

On Saturday, October 20, to GOLDEN GATE PARK and SAN FRANCISCO BEACH and ZOO (or we suggest a visit to the planetarium show in the afternoon). Meet at 9 a.m. at 43rd and Fulton Streets, near the Chain-of-Lakes, Golden Gate Park. Tentative leader, Arthur Bennett, 836 Mills Ave., San Bruno, JU 8-6702.

On Sunday, October 28, to the University of California campus, Berkeley, and lower Strawberry Canyon. Exploration of lawns and glades and oak and thicket associations here should reveal many wintering sparrows, Hermit Thrushes, Bewick's and possibly Winter Wrens, Nuthatches, and other winter and resident birds. Meet at 9 a.m. at the West Gate to the University, near Oxford and University Ave. (F train from San Francisco; various bus lines from East Bay). Bring lunch, binoculars, telescopes and interested friends. Leader, Phil Smith, LO 9-9451.

Tentative schedule of trips for balance of 1956: Sun., Nov. 11 to Tomales Pt. and Pt. Reyes; Sat., Nov. 24 to Orinda and San Pablo Reservoir; Sun., Dec. 2 to Conn Lake; Sat., Dec. 15 to Lake Merritt. Christmas Counts, Dec. 23 or 30?

— LEE STALLCUP, *Field Trips Chairman,*

6227 Buenaventura St., Oakland 5, LO 9-3185

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

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Membership Chairman.....	Dr. Jean L. Dunham.....	4607 Harbord Drive, Oakland 18, OL 5-1591

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, \$1.00 per year.

Branch of NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, California Office — 2426 Bancroft Way
Berkeley 4 — TH. B-4042